

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In paragraph 2 of the Office action, claims 1 - 2, 4, 6- 7, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated U.S. Patent No. 6,417,715 to Hamamoto et al. (Hamamoto). It is the Office's position that Hamamoto discloses "selectively [125] using one of the reference clock and inverted reference clock as an input to the delay line based on a relationship among the phases of the reference clock, the inverted reference clock, and the feedback clock." It is respectfully submitted that the Office has mischaracterized the Hamamoto reference.

Turning to figure 3 of Hamamoto, element 125 does not select one or the other of the reference clock and inverted reference clock as the input to the delay line as recited in independent claims 1, 6, and 36. Rather, "[c]lock input circuit 125 receives external clocks EXT.CLK and EXT./CLK complementary to each other to generate an internal clock CLK1 according to difference in the potential levels therebetween." See paragraph bridging columns 8 and 9. For that reason alone, claims 1, 6, and 36 are not anticipated by Hamamoto.

Furthermore, it is clear from an examination of figure 3 of Hamamoto, that the clock input circuit 125 is not responsive to the phase comparator 210. Thus, the clock input circuit 125 does not select one of the reference clock and inverted reference clock and is not responsive to any type of phase relationship among the reference clock, inverted reference clock, and feedback clock. The anticipation rejection of claims 1-2, 4, 6-7, and 36 should be withdrawn.

Applicant acknowledges the allowability of claims 14 - 35.

Appl. No. 10/730,609
Amdt. dated 20 October 2005
Reply to Office action of 20 July 2005

Applicant has made a diligent effort to place the instant application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. However, if the Examiner is of the opinion that the instant application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Pencoske', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

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